

SOCCER NEWS

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper
Vol. 3, No. 114 Price 1/-
THURSDAY, SEPT. 2, 1965

POOLS

Exclusive - P.7

THANKS

OUR appeal to Soccer News readers to give their views on "What's Wrong With Soccer" has been overwhelming.

We have received letters from Americans, Europeans, Australians, school-boys and even an Icelandic now living in Victoria!

We have been flooded with completed Survey coupons and it will take a few days to tabulate them.

On this you will see a special report in both next week's Soccer World and Soccer News.

Dozens of readers have written letters; some brief, some up to six pages.

It gave us much pleasure to see that not one of these letters treated the subject in a light, flippant or sardonic way.

Everyone who took part in the survey did it seriously, for the love of the game. And for this Soccer News expresses its very sincere appreciation.

In many cases we received tributes for trying to promote the game through this newspaper. But we would point out that Soccer News' policy is only to publish the facts and offer constructive criticism at all times.

Our object is to promote through the written word and that is why, with Soccer World, we decided to launch this survey.

Today we publish as many letters as we can on page 5. We have had to abbreviate them but we have tried to lift out only the very essence of the letters.

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OH, WHAT A BEAUTY!

This game had everything

By JIM COOK

This game between Hellas and George Cross at Middle Park on Sunday had everything. Yes it certainly did. It gave Soccer one of its BIGGEST shots-in-the-arm for years.



Hellas missed in the 14th minute when Ackerley shot wide from a penalty award after Adams had handled inside the box.

For the remainder of the first half Hellas had the edge and a succession of shots by the home forwards brought the best out of Azzopardi.

On the changeover, Hellas replaced Anderson, whose leg was giving him trouble, with Papadopolous.

Although Hellas had their moments and Kamboropolous nearly scored with a shot from point-blank range, George Cross took command for the last 30 minutes.

In an all out attack on the Hellas goal, Horsfall had cruel luck on two occasions while Campbell headed against the cross bar. But all credit to Hellas defence who covered well in this period.

The goalless draw was a worthy result.

Summing up: This was a real tonic and one that partly cured at least some of soccer's ailments. For the image presented through the display of both sides must surely do the game a power of good. A pat on the back for referee Harrison and his linesmen. The man-in-the-middle did a first-class job!

For these two star-studded teams turned on an inspiring 90-minute display before a delighted crowd of more than 15,000.

It was just like old times with those two deadly rivals fighting it out under perfect conditions on a bowling green surface.

It was all action from start to finish with the tempo fast and the game swinging from end to end.

The goalies have it!

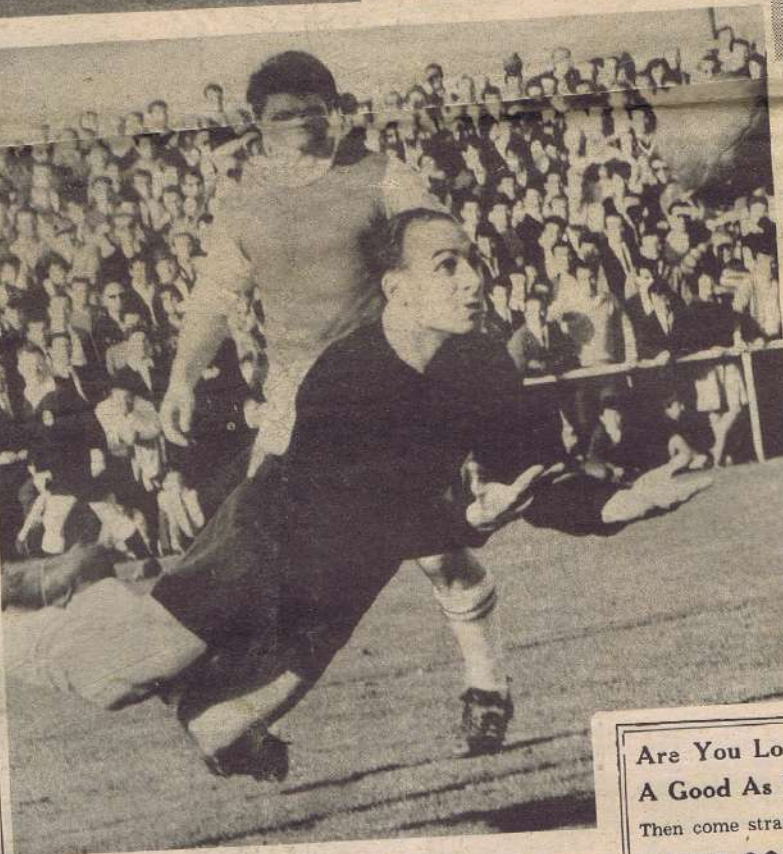
...for the goal-keepers...

Top left: Frank Barbazza, the star Juventus forward who had a great day against Hakoah, at Olympic Park, on Saturday, watches Hakoah's goalie Johnny Walker. (Photo: Uwe Kuessner).

Left: Eddie Azzopardi, one of the safest goalies in the business, certainly made the game safe for his team George Cross at Middle Park on Sunday.

(Photo: Don Hruska).

Bottom left: Cat-like Sam Service, the Hellas goalie who made goal-keeping look easy with his brilliant saves. (Photo: Don Hruska).



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It's heads to it! Here's a fine study of Hakoah full back George Keith as he heads the ball away from his goal at Olympic Park on Saturday. (Photo: Uwe Kuessner).

World cup? you need a crystal ball

By MARTIN ASTON

● MORRIE BUCKNER is on holiday. He'll be back next week with his usual hard hitting column.

At present all is chaos and contradiction when it comes to picking the winner of next year's World Cup.

This view has been expressed by, in my opinion, one of the world's most knowledgeable critics, Brian Glanville, in a recent article in the authoritative "Sunday Times".

"One prefers the chances of Brazil, always so well prepared, England, with their home advantage and staggering home record, and Portugal, who have the talent to improve," says Glanville.

Hungary may be winning their group but they still want wingers . . . West Germany and Sweden are mediocre and only time will tell us how good their slightly experimental team really is."

Some idea of the contradiction of current form can be gained from the recent tantalising performances of the "new" Brazil.

They annihilated Belgium and Germany, failed to score against Argentina and Portugal and could only squeeze through to victory against Sweden.

Actually, Glanville points out that the "new" Brazil is not as new as all that because the team includes no less than five members of the World Cup winning side of 1958.

Two of these, the centre halves Bellini and Orlando, did not even play in the 1962 side in Chile when Bellini lost his place as "stopper" and captain to Mauro, and Orlando had gone to play in the Argentine.

GLANVILLE says that Djalma Santos, the powerful, coloured right full-back, has found new life—and his old place—at the age of 36!

Another pleasing factor for Brazil is that Garincha has recovered from his cartilage operation and survived the infinite complications of his private life in which he has left his wife and seven children to live with a beautiful singer Elsa Soares.

Pele, of course, is irreplaceable—but not, judging by recent results, unstoppable because he has found goals a great deal more difficult to come by following his three fine goals against Belgium.

Glanville points out that Brazil's chief problem at the moment lies in who is going to act as their midfield link.

"With Didi and Zito gone, they are now experimenting with the young Palmeiras (Sao Paulo) couple, Ademir da Guia and Dudu and both are greatly gifted players," says Glanville.

"The blond Ademir, whose father, Domingas, was the outstanding full-back of the 1939 World Cup, is 23 years old, a relaxed, subtle ball player, well complemented by the tough Dudu.

"The recent tour of Europe will be of infinite value to them, but it's plain that they so far lack the experience to impose their pattern on a game."

OF THE Latin American countries, Uruguay, Argentina and Mexico have already qualified, but, as Glanville points out, the Mexicans made great labour of winning what seemed to be an absurdly easy group.

He says that Uruguay, painfully rebuilding, can hardly be among the favourites and adds "as for Argentina, their ironic need is for goal scorers—ironic, since this is the country of Di Stefano, Labruna Sivori, Pedernera and Stabile."

"Yet if tactics have changed, if the Argentinian mid-field is so cluttered with defensive forwards as to seem like Grand Central Station, the rhythm continues to be slow."

Well may their team manager, Minella, have remarked after yet another goal-less draw in Paris, "We know we don't score goals, but neither do we give them away . . . the state of mind of the Argentinian player has changed . . . today he rejects defeat."

But the undeniable fact remains that you cannot win a game unless you score a goal.

"In Wellington, they have a new centre-forward with a powerful shot (but sporadic support); in Marzolini, an attacking left-back whom one admired in Chile three years ago; in Rojas and Rendo, two skilled inside forwards," says Glanville.

"But the fact remains that Argentina has still to prove itself in European conditions."

Other form is equally unpredictable and impossible to follow.



Kaligeros (Hellas) and Mayle (George Cross) chase the ball at Middle Park on Sunday. (Photo: Don Kruska).

RUSSIA should certainly qualify, and they could develop into something of a "dark horse" for the finals.

"There is plenty of experience, both in mid-field, where Voronin and Ivanov are among the best in Europe, and up front, with Meshki and Metrevelli," says Glanville.

Such a remark emphasises how unlucky Australian fans were that Voronin and Ivanov did not come here with the Torpedo Moscow team earlier in the year.

ZEMMEL CUP

The Ben Zemmel Cup competition for juniors starts on September 12. The following games will be played: Dandenong v Moorabbin. Hakoah-Ajus v. J.U.S.T., Slavia (bye). Chelsea v. Hakoah, Juventus (bye), Springvale v. Melbourne, Chelsea High v. Wilhelmina, Box Hill (bye).

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SURVEY: Readers' letters

THE Soccer World-Soccer News survey has produced a flood of letters. Because of their importance we are publishing extracts from them this week.

Next week we will publish the findings of the survey conducted in Victoria.

Here are extracts from some of our readers' comments on "What's wrong with Soccer in Victoria".

● The decline in Soccer is getting serious in Victoria. I am an American and the sport I love is Soccer. The average Aussie dislikes any nationality but his own. Our publicity is at fault. Take 3KZ, John Oliphant comes on with an accent you could cut with a knife. All his good work is wasted. On SKY John d'Andrea has an accent and he speaks far too fast, not one Aussie in a thousand would bother to listen. Fred Villiers is far too polite and irritates people. Morrie Buckner would be good if that one-eyed paper, The Sun, would give him some space. Alex Barr could do much better. I say no more English, Scotch or European voices on radio or television—only Australian accents. That's the only way you can bring them in and make them think it's their game. And please, put someone on the microphone at Olympic Park who can speak English. The present announcer speaks bad English and spoils my whole afternoon.—J. E. Charleston, 24 Bunn.

● After 38 years in Australia I realize all Victorian daily newspapers are anti-Soccer. Congratulations to Soccer News for the wonderful work being done to promote Soccer in Victoria.—Dave "Scotty" Irvine, 67 Hoyle St., Morwell, Gippsland.

● Soccer badly needs publicity. We all know publicity costs big money and there is no hope of any help from the daily press. Soccer management in general is poor. Olympic Park is a dead place except when a few "mugs" make fools of themselves giving good excuse for newspapers to poison Soccer with their headlines. There should be a pleasant announcer with a good voice at Olympic Park. Good music should be played. Advertise week-end games on trams. Soccer needs publicity and this must be done by experts. Wake up officials!—G. Greco, 1c Rose Armadale.

● Key to Soccer improvement is in the juniors. I have been interested in them since 1933 and I have proof of success with all the names I have registered over the years. When migrants arrive they're interested in Soccer but it's the second generation we must play up to.—W. Bowman, 24 Hyde St., Deer Park.

● I am an English follower and have been in Australia five months. I think I know what has caused the decline in Australian Soccer. I've been to a match at Olympic Park almost every week since I arrived. Reason for the decline is far too many National teams. There are thousands of British migrants who love Soccer here, but they will not attend Soccer because there are too many National teams. Most British followers won't go and see, say, Slavia simply because it is a foreign name. Yet Slavia's players are mainly names of district names. Any support lost by National names will be regained and improved by new British support. More publicity is needed to make the game the No. 1 winter sport. I hope my ideas will be considered for the good of Soccer here.—M. DeArth, 220 Punt Rd., Prahran.

● There are not enough first-class star players. There also are not enough National teams here. There is not enough money spent on advertising the game in Victoria. Why don't you publish results from Malta.—Victor J. Farrugia, 19 South St., Moe, Gippsland. (We have asked Reuters and the Australian Associated Press for results from Malta but so far they have been unable to supply them.—Editor.)

● We need more district teams. We must try to keep Continental players out and give Australians a chance to prove themselves. There should be more State League teams. There should be junior curtain raisers at every game. There is not enough publicity especially for the juniors. Refereeing is not bad but could improve. Grounds need improve.

ment. Publish the rules of Soccer.—C. T. Rogers, 3 Verdant Ave, Ardeer.

● Migrants should be approached on arrival here to come to Soccer. Also free tickets to games should be given to them. In Latrobe Valley in the past six years more than a dozen schools have been built—not one with a soccer ground.—W. Forsyth, 19 Service Rd., Moe, Gippsland.

● Soccer lacks suitable publicity.—A. B. Szabo, 13 Mary St., St. Kilda.

● Daily newspapers should give more news of Soccer.—A. D. Kiss, 27 Longmore St., St. Kilda.

● Clubs should publish their teams in the press. There should be more school tuition and more publicity.—C. Grech, 12 Young St., Preston.

● Instead of importing third and fourth rate players, import first-class coaches. This would not build up the game quickly, but it would improve the standard in the long run.—H. Sidebottom, 7 Bishop St., Box Hill.

● Change the national names of teams to the suburb from where the team lives. Form a Federation with independent members who have no association with clubs. Introduce Soccer to the schools. Have more police at games. Have first division games to State League games. Hand over Soccer administration to a business company. All these things would help Soccer progress.—S. Lanson, 34 Toogoods Rise, North Box Hill.

● Soccer should adopt the VFL system of the Final Four play-offs. This would give the Federation a higher income and create more interest with clubs. There is no Soccer played in the primary schools. Young Australians must be introduced to the game. There is room for improvement in Soccer's management.—Timothy R. Simpson, 60 Metung St., Balwyn.

● To bring back Soccer to a higher standard and to bring back the crowds, all games should be played on Sunday. In three months people would come by thousands even to metropolitan games. Victoria cannot have two codes playing on one day—Rules and Soccer. Go on like this and Soccer will be killed here. Sundays here in Victoria are dead. What can you do? Nothing! People are bored with Sundays in Melbourne. Let's play Soccer and give the public some entertainment.—Peter Armstrong, 8 East Esplanade, St Albans.

SIR, — I am pleased to note that my letter re Victorian Soccer Federation's lack of interest in helping school teams, published in Soccer News, brought quick response. I have been invited to attend a meeting of South of the Yarra Soccer Federation, where I was given a chance to discuss my problems, and promised help. Unfortunately, most schools finish their football season at the end of this term, to start athletics, and cricket, so there will be little or no opportunity to build and train school Soccer teams this year.—A. R. GAWRONSKI (c/o Prahran High School, Densham Rd., Armadale).

● Former Slavia utility player, John Crabbe, turned in his best ever performance in Australia when he led the Triestina attack against Lions.

As a young Viking, Russ Tamblin fights his way into the harem of Moorish shiek Sidney Pottier to rescue lovely Boba Loncar. It's a scene from "The Long Ships," new Columbia Pictures release in Technicolor and Technirama, also starring Richard Widmark, Rosanna Schiaffino and Oscar Homolka. "The Long Ships" is Pottier's first film since winning the Academy Award as best actor of the year. Now showing at FORUM CINEMA



It's a scramble of heads, legs and arms as players Johnny Bedford (centre), Andrew Roussis (left), Goalie Sam Service (with his hand in the air) and Johnny Anderson all try to get the ball for South Melbourne Hellas on Sunday. (Photo: Don Hruska).

WE SAW GERMAN STAR

WE saw one of Europe's most promising young players in Sydney two months ago and did not realise it.

He is the 19-year-old Klaus Sieloff, who was here earlier in the season with the touring VfB Stuttgart and played in the first half of the game against Prague.

Sieloff has been singled out for special praise by one of the world's top critics Brian Granville in the current issue of "World Soccer".

"He has forced his way into the International side and seems destined to stay there for a long while", says Granville.

"Some experts believed that Weber, the wing-half who fractured a leg playing for Cologne against Liverpool, would eventually take over in the national team from his club, Wilden; but Sieloff's claims were too strong to be resisted."

Sieloff scored two goals (one from the penalty spot) in West's Cup preliminary match against Cyprus.

"Centre halves, of course, grow naturally on German soil, where physical strength and ruthless determination have long characterised the native football", explains Granville.

"One thinks of Erhardt, the Bavarian bull, and of the formidable Liebrich, of Kaiserslautern, the man whose violent tackle on Puskas in an elimination game more or less won Germany the World Cup in 1954".



Andrew Roussis, the Hellas centre half, sprints away for the ball in the centre of the picture as Tommy McPherson (left) and Bob Mayle, and Johnny Anderson (right) look on. (Photo: Don Hruska).

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Who'll take the tumble?

FOLLOWING last Saturday's topsy-turvy results, relegation will not be settled until the final round on September 11.

Sunshine City came to life with a crushing 7-1 win over rivals Moonee Ponds, while Moreland couldn't make any headway in losing 4-1 to Makedonia.

Sandringham, by their good win over Coburg, appear to have lifted themselves clear of the big drop, and Oakleigh did well to beat top dogs Alexander 2-1 in the shock of the day.

Jimmy Mitchell was Sunshine's hero, scoring four of his side's goals.

Ray Pocock put City ahead after 10 minutes, but Ponds equalised after 20 minutes, however, a penalty from Roy Cochrane and one from Jimmy Mitchell put City into a 3-1 lead by half-time.

CURTAIN RAISER

South of the Yarra Under 12's play Adelaide Under 12 champions Budapest at Elsternwick Park as a curtain raiser to the Melbourne v. J.U.S.T. State League game this weekend.

The second half was a one-horse race with Mitchell getting three more goals and Roy Cochrane converting another penalty to complete the annihilation.

Sandringham pressed from the start with Coburg and were unlucky not to score.

Coburg also had a clear-cut chance through Bobby Malcolm but Sandy's keeper just saved.

Billy Bell put Sandy ahead just before half-time with a scrambled goal.

In the first minute of the second half Roy Yearley equalised for Coburg.

Sandy attacked strongly, but to no avail, during this period Franky Loughran was ordered off by referee Roger Lamb for allegedly kicking Sandy right-half Nedeley.

Ten minutes from time left-half Blacow scored the winner with a beautiful goal from 30 yards.

Sandy featured reserve inside-right Zigies and if last Saturday's form is any guide, he will be an asset in future years as he's only 16.

LATE GOAL

Dandenong deserved their 2-1 win over Box Hill but left it rather late, scoring the winner with only two minutes to go.

Dandenong led after six minutes when Tommy White hand-balled in the area and Martin Castrium scored from the spot.

Fate took a hand as it was Castrium who gave away a penalty 15 minutes

Cedel Gift winners

Cedel Gift winners last Saturday on 3KZ's Soccer Round-up were Mrs. B. Ryan, of 18 Vale St., Reservoir, and Mr. Ashman, of Flat 7, 191 Brighton Rd., Elwood.

They successfully answered two questions from last week's issue of Soccer News.

You too can win a presentation pack of Cedel Products next Saturday evening. All you need is a copy of this issue of Soccer News. Read it carefully and two questions will be asked.

Tune in next Saturday to 3KZ at 6.15 p.m. when your hosts will be Fred Villiers, Jim Cook and Martyn Harris.

WANT A COACH?

BOB ISHERWOOD, of 41 Albert St., East Melbourne, is looking for a coaching job. He has had experience in England and is a former amateur player.

from time which allowed Peter Keys to equalise for the Hillmen from the resultant penalty. Then came Dandy's late winner, scored by Strobbe.

Austria and Athena had an exciting game which ended in a 2-2 draw.

Although Austria took the lead after only five minutes, Gletzes retaliated for Athena and scored two goals in five minutes to put them in the lead by half-time.

Austria hit the post in the second half and finally got the equaliser four minutes from the end with a lucky goal, the ball rebounded off Athena full-back Psiroukis and into the net.

2nd DIVISION

St. Albans have now assured themselves of promotion to First Division following their hard-fought win over Park Rangers.

The only goal came in the last 10 minutes when Martin Landherr took a long free kick, Rolf Beirndt cleverly blocked Park Rangers' keeper's view and the ball entered the net.

Park Rangers' centre-half played a sterling game for his side breaking up many moves.

Best players for St. Albans: Left-back Johnny Winkler, Martin Landherr and keeper Barthkowiak.

DOCKERTY CUP

This week sees the third round of the Dockerty

Cup; when the field will be narrowed down to eight clubs.

There are several unknown quantities and one of these is the Pegasus club from Morwell who make the trip to the city to play Moreland.

Although they had a good win over Springvale in the last round, I'll take Moreland, playing at home, to make the fourth round.

An interesting clash is between Ringwood and Essendon. On paper, Ringwood must be favorites, but I know that Essendon have been preparing for this game ever since the draw was made.

Ringwood have done all their "giant-killing" on their own ground and they are not as strong away from home. I think a replay will be needed here.

Park Rangers travel to Geelong to play Bell Park. Rangers have improved in recent weeks and should advance into the next round after a close-fought game.

Providing Coburg can forget last week's result, and providing Franky Loughran doesn't get suspended, they should be able to toss Athena.

Box Hill for the second round running play a fourth division club, in Olympic. They beat top club Hercules in the last round and I can't see them having any trouble in beating the Olympic boys.

The all Second Division clash will see Libertas beat bottom club South Yarra.



● Metropolitan round-up with Martyn Harris

Makedonia are favorites to be one of the four clubs to reach the fifth round and be in the money.

They should have little difficulty in beating last year's "giants-killers" University.

I go for the in-form Altona to beat Monash in the remaining game.

CLUB NEWS

Attention all of those clubs who have not submitted their representatives for the Metropolitan team to play a Country eleven. Remember the closing date for names is next Monday, September 6.

Now, how about it!

In the next few weeks I will produce a list of leading goal-scorers of all First Division clubs. I would like secretaries to make a list of their top three scorers available to me following the last game of the season.

● Phone me on Sunday at Soccer News, 94 4708 between 11 a.m. and noon.

Twenty-two-year-old Wright has returned Sunshine City following service in the army. I am looking to him to strengthen their forward line for next year's campaign.

St. Albans club has had lights installed in their ground and plans afloat for the building of new pavilion. During close season their ground is going to be top soccer.

Congratulations to Frazer on doing the double. Their first eleven have come champions of Third Division with a very impressive record this year and their Reserve A has run away with the Divisional Reserve League Championship being undefeated.

● Remember Sunday mornings between 11 a.m. and 12 noon is the time to contact me and the number to ring is 94 4708. DON'T FORGET.

Happy Soccering until next week!

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Advertising Manager:
Stephen Mihelyi
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A.H. 51 4926
Circulation:
Pamela Hart
94 4708
Publishers:
Sherr. Villiers Pty. Ltd.
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FIRST DIVISION RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Box Hill	21	20	1	0	76	13	41
Sunshine City	21	13	4	4	57	19	30
Dandening	21	13	4	4	65	28	30
Sandringham	21	12	0	9	58	36	24
Moreland	21	8	6	7	26	30	22
Austria	21	8	4	9	40	39	20
Makedonia	21	8	4	9	28	43	20
Alexander	21	7	4	10	36	44	18
Coburg	21	6	3	12	26	45	10
Oakleigh	21	4	5	12	19	45	13
Moonee Ponds	21	4	2	15	16	59	10
Athens	21	2	5	14	21	72	9

SECOND DIVISION RESERVES									
	P	F	W	D	L	F	A	P	
Brighton	19	14	1	4	6	28	33	29	
Park Rangers	20	11	3	6	45	26	25	23	
University	19	11	2	6	33	26	24	21	
St. Albans	19	9	3	7	32	37	31	19	
Ferntree Gully	19	8	3	3	34	35	29	19	
Prahran	19	8	2	9	37	34	18		
Ringwood	19	6	4	9	44	45	18		
Springvale	19	7	2	10	32	35	16		
Libertas	19	5	5	9	18	35	15		
Bayswater	19	7	0	12	38	50	14		
South Yarra	19	5	4	10	27	62	13		

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Dress wear consultants

• Dino Di Marchi, the 19-year-old Juventus left winger became the first State League player this season to score a hat-trick in successive games. He scored three against Triestina two weeks ago and followed suit last weekend against Hakoah.

JIM COOK

• Soccer takes some amazing twists. George Cross transferred Norm Hobson for a big fee to Wilhelmmina after he had been kept on the sidelines through the form of Eddie Azzopardi. Recently Eddie lost his form and was replaced by young Lou Kastener, but Eddie came back against Hellas.

SO MANY NUTS IN BRAZIL

THERE are an awful lot of footballers in Brazil, and that goes for coffee and nuts, too!

It would be wrong, therefore, to assume that every footballer coming from Brazil is a good one, let alone a second Pele.

At the moment, seven Brazilian footballers are standing by to make Scottish League debuts. These Brazilians have been booked into Scotland via a Portuguese agent called JOSE RAMOS, who has a Lisbon address but is at present in Scotland. Celtic, Dunfermline and St. Mirren are the clubs concerned. The names of the seven footballers are Inacio, Di Sousa, Fara

Consul, Azevedo, Gabriella and Filho.

So far, the Brazilian FA have not given the Scottish FA a clearance for the players. So I asked about the delay at the Brazilian Embassy.

Mr. PETER PULLEN, whom I know to be a friend of the Brazilian FA President, Jaca Havelange, and also the official spokesman for the world champions in Europe, said:

"I have never heard of Mr. Ramos. To the best of my knowledge, he has not been heard of in Brazil either I don't know any of the players. I don't think they are first-class." Mr. Ramos declined to discuss the situation.

• A 21-year-old Australian boilermaker has caused a sensation in Sydney Soccer circles by booking a passage to England on October 28, paying for it, and refusing to name the English team which wants him.

• Goalkeeper John Roberts of the Sydney APIA team is the only Australian to be named in his country's World Cup squad.

• The English club which wants him is Chelsea. "A tremendous prospect," says manager Tommy Docherty. We spotted him on tour in the summer.

• Another English club—Manchester City—know all about the cat-like and courageous Roberts.

"Roberts is coming, to Chelsea," insists The Doc.

• Boilermaker Roberts ousted former Real Madrid goalkeeper Adauto Iglesias after three months with APIA, whom he joined in the middle of 1964.

• "I want to play full-time in England," says Roberts. No wonder he's keen to move. The Italian left winger in his team, Johnny Giacometti, has just had a death threat.

• A boy handed Giacometti a letter before the game with Budapest St. George which read, "We're going to kill you, you bloody spaghetti eater!" There's nothing like that at Stamford Bridge!

• New Juventus coach Marcello Svoronich bubbles over with enthusiasm particularly on match days when he takes up his position around the sidelines. But this verve and spirit could get him into hot water with some referees before long. All afternoon at the recent Triestina - Juventus game, Marcello shouted himself hoarse wandering round the sidelines with instructions to his players. An enthusiast in his post if there ever was one! But whether his actions will be condoned by all our referees is doubtful.

• Spare a thought for Triestina Reserves. Until last Saturday in their 16 games they had scored only eight goals. But wait for it! In the same period they conceded 115. Phew! for the boys who have what a back bending job been in goal.

LIKE PEAS IN A POD

• Duncan MacKay, the Croatia captain - coach, and Frank Hailey, the Budapest St. George keeper in Sydney, have plenty in common besides both being Scots. For they played together with the same junior club Maryhill Harp, turned senior with the same club, Glasgow Celtic, and both represented Scotland in full internationals at the same time.

• Former Hakoah and Victorian representative player, Don Barker, who is now with Sandringham, is recovering from an appendicitis operation.

• Bad luck for Hakoah they lost the services for so long this season of ace right winger Alec Purdie. And worse luck for Alec, who is a P.T. teacher at Essendon Technical School.

• Jimmy Mantrakes, of Hellas, would do well as an acrobat in a circus or a ballet performer. For several times this season he has brought off clearances with spectacular leaps and overhead kicks that would do justice to the circus or ballet performer.

• Pity every game didn't have the relegation tag! For last Wednesday's vital match between Triestina and Lions was an eye-opener as well as being all action from start to finish. Right till the end the crowd maintained their interest as the game swung from one end to the other.



Dino Di Marchi sends in a sizzling shot which results in his second goal for Juventus against Hakoah on Saturday. Hakoah goalie Walker goes down to save it but he misses as John O'Neill runs in to cover for him. But it was too late. (Photo: Uwe Kuessner).

KIDDING!

JOKE OF THE WEEK (and the best of the year):

"World Football Series Planned".

Did you see this headline on the back page of The Age on Friday? And from the 'reliable newspaper' too!

Their world series is planned between top Aussie Rules clubs from Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart in October.

It's a £10,000 series so the report said.

World series? Who are they kidding!

• Bribery is a nasty word in anyone's language. Allegations of such in a recent game in New South Wales is no reason to slate this State all on its own. For in Victoria as well the talk of bribery has been pretty common over the years without anyone being in a position to substantiate it. But sooner or later in Australia someone is going to get their fingers burned. And burned badly.

• One of the linesmen at the Triestina v. Lions game last Wednesday evening was felled and winded with the ball following a desperate clash between Crabbe of Triestina and Walker of Lions.

• David Goldie, the brilliant George Cross forward who was transferred to a Sydney club recently, has been included in the New South Wales training squad.

• Polonia's goals against total of just over one goal per game is an excellent average and ranks with the best in the league. It is all the more remarkable, however, when one considers that goalkeeper Snopkowski, together with full backs Marmour and Blank, are all juniors who have graduated to regular first team placings only this season.

RECOVERING

Mike Mandalls, the brilliant Hellas centre forward who recently broke his left leg is making rapid recovery. Mike hopes to start training in a fortnight.

• Melbourne are expecting a new player from Scotland after Christmas. He is 22-year-old wing half or inside forward, Robert Connolly, who has had senior experience with Liverpool and St. Johnstone.

• Following quickly on the recent trial game in Edinburgh trying out the amended offside game comes a new suggestion from Harry Swaa, a Hibernian director and one of the top legislators in Scotland for many years. Mr. Swaa's proposal is simply to abolish offside when a free kick is taken within the defenders' half of the field. It is simple and would be easily understood by players and spectators who are already accustomed to a "No offside" situation following a corner kick or throw-in. Its real value is that it would effectively penalise the defender who is prepared to throw the rule-book away in order to check a dangerous attack.

• Remember the name: Tommy Rosewall - centre forward and a recent arrival for Lions? Fast on the ball and quick to seize a chance Tommy is one of the type who scores a couple of good goals then follows this up by missing a couple of easy chances. An excellent average for any centre forward.

• There's been no mystery about Eddie Azzopardi who was recently ousted in the George Cross goal and replaced by young Louis Kastener. Eddie was off form of a spell then took the 'flu, but re-appeared in the George Cross first team against Hellas.

COME AND SEE THE GIANT KILLERS . . .

CROATIA v. JUVENTUS this Saturday

OLYMPIC PARK, 2.45

(Plenty of car parking space, refreshments)



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